

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 024513

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TRSY WASHDC

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 024513

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT:FEBRUARY 3 EA PRESS SUMMARY

### 1. INDOCHINA

GVN CONFISCATED NINE OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS IN SAIGON FOR  
ALLEGEDLY SLANDERING THIEU BY TRYING TO PUBLISH DETAILS  
OF CHARGES MADE BY REV. THANH (AP WP, SUN). GVN CLOSED

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PAGE 02 STATE 024513

DOWN FIVE OPPOSITION PAPERS, ARRESTED 14 REPORTERS AS

COMMUNIST AGENTS (REUTER SAIGON).

SVN TROOPS CLASHED WITH MEMBERS OF HOA HAO SECT WHO REBELLED LAST WEEK WHEN GOVT ORDERED PRIVATE ARMY DISBANDED. SECT CLAIMS GVN EARLIER HAD PROMISED TO LET RETAIN ARMY IF IT KEPT DELTA FREE OF COMMUNISTS (WSJ). FIELD REPORTS SAID AUTHORITIES REMOVED ROADBLOCKS SET UP THURS BY HOA HAO GUARDS ALONG FIVE-MILE STRETCH OF ROAD NEAR DISTRICT TOWN 90 MILES SW OF SAIGON (AP, SUN). HOA HAO LEADER QUOTED IN UNCONFIRMED REPORT IN SAIGON PAPER THAT SEVEN SECT MEMBERS KILLED, 16 WOUNDED, AND OVER 600 ARRESTED (AP, WP).

SAIGON COMMAND SAID VC PLANTED EXPLOSIVES THAT SANK PANAMANIAN-REGISTERED TUG AT VUNG TAU, BUT NO CASUALTIES (AP WP, SUN).

USDA AUTHORIZED GVN TO BUY 50,000 TONS WHEAT UNDER EXISTING FOOD FOR PEACE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN FEB 7 AND MAR 31, WITH SHIPMENTS MADE BY MAY 31 (CSM).

BATTLE HEATS UP AT PP, WITH HEAVY FIGHTING REPORTED ON MOST FRONTS AROUND CITY. MIL SOURCES SAID SITUATION AT 7TH DIV HQ, NINE MILES NW OF CAPITAL, WAS CRITICAL, THOUGH FEW DETAILS AVAILABLE. BOTH SIDES SENT IN REINFORCEMENTS. MIL SOURCES SAID NSURGENTS INFILTRATED TWO VILLAGES FIVE MILES NORTH OF CAPITAL AND KILLED EIGHT CIVILIANS. WEST OF CITY, GKR TROOPS REPORTED HEAVY RESISTANCE IN OPERATION AIMED AT DRIVING REBELS FROM ROCKET-FIRING SITES. THREE ROCKETS HIT AIRPORT AREA SUNDAY, KILLED ONE. MIL SOURCES DESCRIBE FIGHTING AROUND PP AS SELOND PHASE OF INSURGENT OFFENSIVE AGAINST CAPITAL (UPI, CHITRIB).

INSURGENT FORCES KILL 18 IN ATTACKS IN AND AROUND PP. ASSAULTS INCLUDED ROCKET ATTACKS ON PAGODA AND BURNING OF REFUGEE CAMPS AND VILLAGES (AP WP, SUN).

PALACE SOURCES SAID LON NOL VISITED REFUGEE CAMP ON OUTSKIRTS OF PP ON SECOND INSPECTION AROUND CAPITAL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 024513

IN MONTH (AP WP, SUN).

WP'S GREENWAY FROM PP DESCRIBES ROCKET ATTACKS ON POCHENTONG THAT TAKE TOLL OF MIL DEPENDENTS IN AREA AS WELL AS MAKE AIRPORT UNSAFE FOR PLANES. SAYS TEN TO FORTY ROUNDS STRIKE EVERY DAY. NOTES THAT CIVILIAN HLANES OFTEN OVERNIGHT AT BATTAMBANG WHERE IT IS "SAFER AND CHEAPER." QUOTES REPORT THAT LLOYDS OF LONDON REFUSES

TO INSURE PLANES COMING INTO PP; ONLY AIRLINE THAT DOES  
NOW IS AIR CAMBODGE.

CSM'S SWEENEY REPORTS "SIGHTINGS" OF POWS THAT LEAK OUT OF  
INDOCHINA THAT NATL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES HAS "VERIFIED."  
LEAGUE MET IN WASHINGTON RECENTLY WHERE MEMBER SAID  
USG DID NOT GIVE INFO ON SIGHTINGS AND FAMILIES HAD TO  
LEARN OF THEM THROUGH INDEPENDENT SOURCES. STATED INFO  
WAS IN FILES, AND, GOVT "LINALLY" ACKNOWLEDGED IT ONLY  
WHEN FAMILIES TOLD "EVERYTHING THEY KNEW." ON BASIS OF  
RECENT MEETINGS WITH WH, DOS AND DOD, MEMBER SAID  
GOVT IS MAKING REAL EFFORT TO DO SOMETHING ON ISSUE AND  
"BE CANDID" FOR FIRST TIME IN TWO YRS.

## 2. CHINA

NYDN CITES CURRENT TIME MAG REPORT THAT FORMER PRES NIXON  
IN TALK WITH FRIENDS "HAS FANTASIED THAT HE WOULD NOT  
MIND BEING US AMBASSADOR TO CHINA SOME DAY."

IN 91-PAGE REPORT TO SFRC SUNDAY, MANSFIELD SAID PRC  
LEADERS NOT SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS IN SINO-US RELATIONS;  
SEN INDICATED HE MAY FAVOR CUTTING US TIES WITH ROC.  
ADDED THAT CHINESE APPARENTLY WILLING TO SEEK INFO ABOUT  
THREE US MILITARY PERSONNEL SHOT DOWN NEAR PRC-NVN  
BORDER DURING VN WAR (UPI, GLOBE FEB 2).

## 3. JAPAN

CSM (TOKYO) SAYS MITSUI SUGAR, OTHER REFINERS CUTTING  
OUTPUT 30 PERCENT DUE TO FALLING DEMAND; SUGAR INVENORY  
NOW TOTALS 120,000 TONS, TWICE NORMAL.  
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PAGE 04 STATE 024513

JOC (TOKYO) NOTES MOF APPROVAL OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN TO EXPAND  
OIL STORAGE CAPACITY TO 90 DAYS, AT COST OF FIVE BILLION  
DOLS; FIRST STEP IS TO EXPAND PRESENT 60-DAY CAPACITY TO  
70 DAYS BY END OF JFY 75. 60J CALLS PLAN IMPORTANT RESPONSE  
TO IEA PROPOSAL THAT MEMBERS BUILD UP OIL RESERVES TO MEET  
GLOBAL EMERGENCIES.

NYT SPECIAL (TOKYO) CITES MIN ED NAGAI CRITICISM IN FOREIGN  
PRESS CLUB SPEECH LAST WEEK OF EXCESSIVELY COMPETITIVE  
TRADITIONAL ENTRANCE EXAM SYSTEM, WHICH STRESSES  
MEMORIZATION INSTEAD OF REASONING. FORMER EDUCATOR NAGAI  
DID NOT SPECIFY HOW, OR WHEN SYSTEM SHOULD BE CHANGED,  
SAID HE WOULD CONSULT JAPAN TEACHERS' UNION.

WP'S OBERDORFER IN KAWASAKI (PHINQ) REPORTS ON "EARTHQUAKE INFORMATION RALLIES" ORGANIZED BY LOCAL GOVT TO EXPLAIN PROSPECTS, COUNTERMEASURES IN WAKE OF SCIENTISTS' REPORT CITY ROSE TWO INCHES IN PAST FOUR YEARS, FACES EARTHQUAKE WITHIN "YEAR OR TWO." CITY OFFICIALS DOWNPLAY POSSIBLE QUAKE, BUT EXPERTS THINK ANY TREMOR DANGEROUS BECAUSE OF CONCENTRATION OF PETROCHEMICAL TANKS, PIPELINES IN DENSELY POPULATED INDUSTRIAL SUBURB BETWEEN TOKYO AND YOKOHAMA. FINDS CITIZENS FATALISTIC.

#### 4. PHILIPPINES

LOCAL PHIL AIRLINER CAUGHT FIRE ON TAKEOFF FROM MANILA MONDAY, CRASHED AND BURNED THREE MILES FROM AIRPORT,

KILLING 31. ONLY AMCIT REPORTED DEAD WAS REV. J. HUDSON MTCHELL, NEW ROCHELLE, NY (AP, NYT, SUN). HOSPITAL NURSE SAID SOLE SURVIVOR ROGER DOUGLAS COLLINS IS AMCIT (REUTER, WP).

WP CITES MARCOS SAYING GOP TROOPS SUFFER HEAVY CASUALTIES IN FIGHT AGAINST MORO SECESSIONISTS IN SOUTH, AND TALKS IN JIDDA UNSUCCESSFUL.

NYT SAYS BOBBY FISCHER CHOSE MANILA SUNDAY AS PREFERRED SITE FOR CHESS TITLE MATCH WITH SOVIET CHALLENGER LATER UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 024513

IN YEAR. MANILA OFFERED HIGH-BID PURSE OF FIVE MILLION DOLS.

#### 5. AUSTRALIA

JOC (SYDNEY) SAYS WHEAT BOARD, PRC SIGN MILLION-TON WHEAT DEAL NEGOTIATED LAST WEEK, UNDER AUSTRALIA'S LONG-TERM SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH CHINA. SALE COMES ON HEELS OF CHINESE CANCELLING WHEAT CONTRACTS WITH US.

JOC'S STOVE IN SYDNEY NOTES AUSSIE'S PLAN TO MOVE AHEAD "IMMEDIATELY" TO ACQUIRE OWN DEEP-SEA TANKER FLEET, IN JOINT VENTURE OF GOA, SHIPPING COMPANIES. MOVE FOLLOWS RECENT GOA ANNOUNCEMENT OF POLICY TO CARRY UP TO 40 PERCENT OF CRUDE OIL, FEEDSTOCK IMPORTS IN AUSSIE BOTTOMS WITHIN TWO YEARS.

#### 6. THAILAND

AP BANGKOK (NYDN) CITES HIGH DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICIAL, WHO SAID SUNDAY THAT NEW GOVT WILL BE FORMED IN NEXT TWO DAYS, DESPITE DEADLOCK WITH PROSPECTIVE COALITION

PARTNERS OVER ALLOCATION OF KEY MINISTRIES.

COMMENAND ANALYSIS

7. INDOCHINA

WSJ'S KANN IN SAGON (1/31) FINDS C-F HAS PRODUCED "NO PERCEPTIBLE PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE," NOT EVEN "SUSTAINED REDUCTION" OF VIOLENCE, ONLY 140,000 MORE VNAMESE CORPSES. BUT CONSENSUS GROWING THAT 1975 WILL BE WATERSHED YEAR FOR SVN FATE. NORTH SEES NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECISIVE BLOWS TO FORCE THIEU OUT BY MID YEAR AND BEGIN "SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS" TO FORM COALITION GOVT; SOUTH REMAINS IN GOOD SHAPE, BUT STRAIN BEGINNING TO SHOW, WITH PEOPLE WEARYING OF WAR AND 6VN UNCERTAIN ABOUT US SUPPORT.

CITES INTERVIEW IN WHICH THIEU SAID GVN MUST COPE WITH DESIGNS OF COMMUNISTS AND AMERICANS. SAYS ONE VNAMESE "LLOSEST TO THIEU" FEELS DANGER IS GREAT WHEN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 024513

VN WEAK, AND COMMUNIST AND AMERICAN DESIGNS CONVERGE.

FORESEES DIVERGENCE OF INTEREST OF US, SVN BY MID-YEAR, WHEN OUT OF NEED TO PREPARE FOR 1976 ELECTION PRES MAY BE EXPECTED TO INSIST ON SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS, FOR WHICH PRECONDITION IS THIEU'S DEPARTURE. NOTES "INFORMED (AND NON-VIETNAMESE) SOURCES" ALREADY HINTING COMMUNISTS WOULD FIND SAIGON "MORE FLEXIBLE" IF THEY RESUME TALKS NOW, AND THAT PEACE, OR LESS WAR, MIGHT FLOW FROM "THIRD VIETNAM FORMULA," WHICH WOULD DEFINE VC-CONTROLLED ZONES, ALLOW VC TO PROCLAIM PROVISIONAL CAPITAL AND BE RECOGNIZED AS LEGITIMATE GOVT OF PART OF SVN.

OBSERVES THAT BATTLEFIELD WILL SHAPE PARIS PEACE TALKS, BUT MIL EXPERTS BELIEVE SAIGON CAN SURVIVE PRETTY MUCH INTACT. OPTIMISTS TEND TO BE AMERICANS, WHO ARGUE COMMUNISTS WILL SETTLE FOR SMALL SHARE OF VN PIE WHEN THEY REALIZE THEY CAN'T WIN WAR WHEN CURRENT MOVES FAIL; PESSIMISTS TEND TO BE VNAMESE WHO BELIEVE COMMUNISTS WILL TRY AGAIN IN 1976 IF THEY FAIL THIS YEAR.

FROM SAIGON, THOMAS THOMPSON (JOHNS HOPKINS FELLOW) WRITES IN SUN THAT VIETNAM HAS BEEN THROWN IN "BASKET OF IRRATIONAL PROBLEMS" WORLD NO LONGER CARES TO WORRY ABOUT NOW THAT "PEACE WITH HONOR" HAS NOT ENDED WAR. FINDS VIETNAMESE PESSIMISTIC WAR WILL EVER END AS ECONOMY SPIRALS DOWNWARD, CASUALTIES MOUNT, US AID REDUCED, ARVN DESERTIONS CLIMB TO WORST RATE IN HISTORY AND SOME POSTS

ESPECIALLY IN DELTA BEING ABANDONED. SAYS "MALNUTRITION FIGURES RISING." NO,ES RUMORS ABOUT "UNEASY LOYALTY" OF SOME OF THIEU'S GENERALS. CITES AMEMBASSY OFFICIAL, IN ANONYMITY ,THAT US NOW ONLY CLOSING EYES AND GRITTING TEETH, IN HOPE THIEU CAN SOMEHOW HANG ON. OBSERVES COMMUNISTS HAVE ACHIEVED PSYCHOLOGICAL IF NOT STRATEGIC SUCCESS BY DISRUPTING DELTA RICE HARVEST AND CUTTING,HALTING FLOW OF GOODS, WHICH, IN REAL SENSE, COULD EVENTUALLY MEAN ISOLATION OF SAIGON.

BUT THIEU REFUSES NEGOTIATE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT WITH PRG, WHICH ONLY HOPE OF IMPROVING LIFE. NOW, HOWEVER UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 07 STATE 024513

SKILLED IN ART OF SURVIVAL, THIEU'S LIFELINE OF US AID BEING CUT, AND GVN OFFICIALS SEE LITTLE HOPE FOR FUTURE IN FACE OF INFLATION, RISING UNEMPLOYMENT. LABELS

TALK OF OIL DISCOVERY "PIPEDREAM" OFFERING LITTLE HOPE OF TURNING MASSIVE TRADE DEFICIT. COMMENTS GVN, EVEN WITH ALMOST UNLIMITED US AID, WAS UNABLE TO FIGHT NVN TO STANDSTILL, AND NOW THAT CONGRESS NOT LIKELY "TO THROW MORE FUNDS DOWN VERITABLE RATHOLE" SADDEST SPECTACLE IS THAT VIETNAMESE PEOPLE SEEM DOOMED TO DECADES OF SUFFERING BEFORE WORLD AUDIENCE NOT ONLY TOO POWERLESS TO CALL HALT, BUT GENERALLY TOO WEARY TO CARE.

HARSCH (CSM 1/30) LABELS AS "FALLACY" CONVENTIONAL WISDOM THAT HOLDS ALL WHO FAVORED US DISENGAGEMENT FROM SVN TWO YEARS AGO OPPOSE, IN LOGIC, ANY INCREASE IN AID TO GVN NOW. CASE AGAINST PUTTING US TROOPS ON ASIAN MAINLAND REMAINS "OVERWHELMING," BUT POINTS OUT THIS NOT SAME AS GIVING PEOPLE OF SVN ENOUGH WEAPONS TO BALANCE OFF THOSE GIVEN NVN BY OTHERS.

OBSERVES COLD WAR "DOMINO THEORY" BECAME PHOBIA THAT LED WASHINGTON TO PUT HALF-MILLION TROOPS ON MAINLAND, JUST SOUTH OF CHINA, WHERE THEY POSED DANGER OF INVOLVEMENT IN LAND WAR WITH WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS NATION. BUT ALL THAT IS OVER -- CHINA NO LONGER VIEWED AS IMPLACABLY HOSTILE, DANGEROUSLY EXPANSIONIST IMPERIALIST POWER (EXCEPT BY SOVIETS) AND WAR HAS BEEN "VIETNAMIZED". SINCE SOVIETS, CHINESE STILL COMPETE, OUT OF RIVALRY, TO SUPPORT NVN, SEES NO REASON WHY US SHOULD NOT BALANCE OFF THEIR AID TO HANOI. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY INVITE SAIGON'S COLLAPSE; EVEN WITH HELP SVN MAY LOSE AND COME UNDER DRV OVERLORDSHIP. BUT FAILURE TO HELP DOOMS SVN TO DEFEAT. ASKS, "DO AMERICANS REALLY WANT THAT?"

WP'S CANNON (1/31) NOTES DEMS SEE "SCARE TACTICS" IN ADMIN

STATEMENTS ON REQUEST TO CONGRESS FOR MORE INDOCHINA  
MIL AID. CONFLICT BETWEEN ADMIN AND CONGRESS DEEPENING.  
BELIEVES NESSEN AT LAST THURS' WH BRIEFING APPEARED  
SIGNALING ADMIN DISINCLINATION TO PUT CONGRESS ON SPOT BY  
HOLDING IT RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENS IN INDOCHINA  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 024513

MILITARILY.

BARNES (S-N 1/30) FINDS PRES TALKING TOUGH AND EVIDENTLY  
PREPARED FOR FIGHT WITH CONGRESS OVER INDOCHINA MIL AID,  
WHILE OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE IS HILL WON'T PASS BILL.  
INTERPRETS PRES' INCLINATION TO PRESS FOR PROGRAMS FACING  
ALMOST CERTAIN DEFEAT IN CONGRESS AS PART OF ATTITUDE  
HAT TIME HAS COME TO FACE UP TO "POLITICALLY UNPOPULAR  
DECISIONS."

MARQUIS CHILDS (SUN 1/31) SEES INDOCHINA AID ISSUE BREWING  
STORM IN CONGRESS. BELIEVES SENATE DEBATE MAY HALT ALL  
MOVEMENT FOR WEEKS. SEN HUMPHREY, WHO WARNED DOS THAT IF  
REQUEST GOES FORWARD SENATE MAY NEVER PASS ANOTHER FOREIGN  
AID BILL, WANTS C-F NEGOTIATION PARTICIPANTS CALLED  
TOGETHER AGAIN WITH HOPE OF WORKING OUT MORE REALISTIC  
ACCORD. CHILDS FINDS IT DOUBTFUL HANOI, MAKING RAPID MIL  
ADVANCES IN SOUTH, WOULD AGREE. LOGIC OF ADMIN POSITION  
LIABLE TO HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH STRUGGLE. SAYS OPPOSITION  
SEES DEADLY PARALLEL WITH CKS REGIME IN 1945, AND PROTESTS  
IN SVN FURTHER ERODE SUPPORT.

WP'S GREENWAY (1/31) IN PP REPORTS DISAGREEMENT AMONG  
DIPLOMATIC SOURCES AND MIL EXPERTS ABOUT WHETHER EXTRA MIL  
AID REALLY NECESSARY FOR GKR'S SURVIVAL. ABOUT 85 PCT  
OF MIL AID GOES FOR AMMO, AND CRITICS INSIST IF FANK  
USED BOMBS AND ARTILLERY WITH MORE PRECISION, SAVINGS  
COULD BE MADE WITHOUT RISKING SERIOUS DEFEATS. ALSO CLEAR  
TO MANY THAT NO AMOUNT OF SPENDING LIKELY FORCE INSURGENTS  
TO NEGOTIATE.

GREENWAY NOTES THAT COMPARED TO ARVN, FANK IS NOT  
EXPENSIVELY EQUIPPED, BUT INSURGENTS ALSO MORE POORLY  
EQUIPPED THAN VC AND NVA. QUOTES SOSTHENE FERNANDEZ  
THAT GKR PROBABLY COULD SURVIVE IF CONGRESS DOES NOT  
APPROPRIATE MONEY BUT IT WOULD BE "DIFFICULT." IN  
INTERVIEW, GEN SAID IT WASN'T SO MUCH QUESTION OF PRESENT  
OFFENSIVE, BUT OF FUNDS TO PERMIT PROGRAM TO MAKE ARMY  
MORE EFFECTIVE AND STRONGER, AND CONGRESSIONAL REFUSAL  
MIGHT REDUCE EDGE OVER ENEMY AFTER YEARS OF IMPROVEMENT.

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PAGE 09 STATE 024513

GREENWAY SEES LARGER QUESTION FOR CONGRESS AS HOW COMMITTED US MUST BE TO GKR SURVIVAL. NOTES DIFFERENCES BETWEEN VN AND CAMBODIA: NO C-F IN CAMBODIA; NOR ARE FOREIGN TROOPS ANY LONGER FACTOR; AND CAMBODIA WAS NEVER PARTITIONED. SIMILARITIES ARE THAT BOTH NOW FIGHT CIVIL WARS AND ALL SIDES DEPEND UPON OUTSIDE SUPPORT. BELIEVES FORD IS CORRECT IN SAYING GKR IS ON RECORD TO NEGOTIATE UNCONDITIONALLY, BUT SEES LITTLE INDICATION INSURGENTS WILL BARGAIN OR COMPROMISE. CONCLUDES WAR IS STALEMATED AND UNLIKELY PRESENT INSURGENT OFFENSIVE WILL SUCCEED; BUT FINDS LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PRES' HOPE THAT REBELS WILL NEGOTIATE IF THEY ARE SHOWN THEY CANNOT WIN.

#### 8. THAILAND

NYT EDIT EXAMINES THAILAND'S "FREEST AND FAIREST," NATIONAL ELECTION. NOTES TWELVE SPLINTER PARTIES WON -4 SEATS EACH, AND TWO MAJOR BLOCS, CONSERVATIVES AND CENTRISTS, EACH FELL SHORT OF MAJORITY BY ABOUT THIRTY SEATS. THUS FORESEES DIFFICULTY IN FORMING GOVT, WITH GENERALS AND COLONELS WAITING IN WINGS TO RESTORE MILITARY RULE.

BUT ALSO SEES THAILAND, FORTUNATELY, MORE STABLE THAN MOST NATIONS IN REGION. STRONG ECONOMY IS SURVIVING ENERGY CRISIS AND DOMESTIC UPHEAVALS WITH RELATIVELY MINOR DAMAGE, AS RICE, RUBBER TIN EXPORT PRICES RISE ALMOST ENOUGH TO BALANCE HIGHER COST OF OIL; INFLATION IS LESS VIRULENT THAN ELSEWHERE, AND GENERAL SLOWDOWN OF ECONOMY HAS LED MORE TO LEVELLING OFF THAN DECLINE.

WHILE NATURAL BIRTH OF NEW THAI DEMOCRACY SEEMS HEADED FOR PROLONGED LABOR AND DIFFICULT BIRTH PAINS, CONCLUDES CHANCE IS FAIR THAT MULTIPLICITY OF PARTIES WILL BE OUTGROWN, AND GIVE WAY TO STABLE, DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL SYSTEM.

#### 9. KOREA

NYT'S HALLORAN IN SEOUL SAYS SK ARMY LOYALTY TO PARK "HAS BEGUN TO SHOW CRACKS THAT COULD JEOPARDIZE HIS HOLD

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 10 STATE 024513

ON POWER." FINDS SCATTERED, SPORADIC DISCONTENT ENOUGH TO MAKE ROKG "MORE THAN USUALLY SENSITIVE" TO HINTS OF DISLOYALTY IN ARMED FORCES. WHILE IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL



WHETHER COUP BEING PLOTTED, EVIDENCE SUGGESTS ARMY WOULD PROBABLY NOT FIRE ON KOREAN CIVILIANS IN SHOWDOWN WITH PARK.

REVIEWS SIGNS OF ARMY DISCONTENT, MOST RECENTLY ARMY LT. WHO PLACED SYMPATHY AD IN DONG-A ILBO. CITES "SOME SENIOR OFFICIALS" OF ROKG THAT PARK CALLED REFERENDUM PARTLY OUT OF FEAR OF MILITARY COUP, AND TO PREVENT POSSIBLE STUDENT REVOLT WITH STRONG SHOW OF POPULARITY. SAYS SOME SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS SUGGEST IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION THAT PARK SHOULD PREPARE TO RETIRE, LEAVING OPEN JUST WHEN. NOTES SEVERAL SOURCES REPORT DISCONTENT AMONG YOUNG COLONELS WHO TOOK NO PART IN PARK'S COUP, FEEL NO PERSONAL LOYALTY TO HIM; SOME WERE TRAINED IN US AND EXPOSED TO AMERICAN VIEWS ON MILITARY NON-ROLE IN POLITICS.

CITES "KNOWLEDGABLE SOURCES" WHO SAY REAL REASON ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES EMPLACED ON HIGH-BUILDINGS IS NOT TO FIRE ON NK INTRUDERS AS SUPPOSED, BUT TO MEET PARK'S CONCERN THAT NO ROKAF PLANES BOMB BLUE HOUSE.

10. CHINA

REVIEWING RECENT CHOU NPC ADDRESS, O. EDMUND CLUBB (IN NYT) SAYS IT HAS TO BE ASSUMED PEKING LEADERSHIP, EVEN WITHOUT MAO AHELM, ANTICIPATES SERIOUS WEAKENING OF CAPITALIST COUNTRIES AS RESULT OF DEEPENING ECONOMIC CRISIS, AND THIS IS EVIDENTLY DOMINANT FACTOR IN PEKING'S PRESENT STRATEGIC APPROACH TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS. CHOU REGARDS CHINA AS PART OF THIRD WORLD, AND THAT PUTS PRC CATEGORICALLY IN OPPOSITION TO US, WHICH IS ALREADY IN CONFLICT WITH IMPORTANT THIRD WORLD MEMBERS. AND WHEN CHOU SAID CHINA SUPPORTS "JUST STRUGGLES" OF KOREA, VN, CAMBODIA AND LAOS PEOPLES, IT WAS MADE ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT, FOR SO LONG AS US MIGHT ENDEAVOR TO DOMINATE DEVELOPMENTS IN THOSE ASIAN SECTORS, CHINA WILL BE ITS OPPONENT. NECESSARY TO REGISTER ONE CAVEAT, SAYS CLUBB: PERHAPS SOME OF MAOIST TERMINOLOGY IN CHOU SPEECH WAS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 11 STATE 024513

DESIGNED AS OBEISANCE TO ABSENT MAO AND CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY COULD CHANGE RADICALLY WITH MAO'S PERMANENT DEPARTURE FROM CHINESE SCENE. BUT INsofar AS PEKING MAY CLEAVE TO PRESENT POLICY LINE, US STANDS GOOD CHANCE OF BEING RESTORED TO ITS LOST STATUS OF CHINA'S "PRINCIPAL ENEMY OF THE MOMENT."

MAX LERNER OBSERVES THAT IT IS PRC MODERATES WHO HAVE SURVIVED AND PROVED DURABLE. AND WHILE IN THEIR FORMAL SUMMARY AT NPC, PARTY LEADERS NOTED GROWING

"CONTRADICTIONS" BETWEEN US AND SOVIET POWER BLOCS, IF  
PRC HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THEM, "IT IS NOT SOVIETS THEY  
WOULD CHOOSE. WHICH MAY HELP EXPLAIN WHY THEIR  
MODERATES REMAIN IN POWER" (BOSTON N-A JAN. 28).

CDM'S DEDMON REVIEWS SECTION ON CHINA TRAVEL IN JOHN  
FELBER'S "AMERICAN'S TOURIST MANUAL." SAYS ALTHOUGH  
BOOK IS THOROUGH IN TELLNG WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO  
BE SEEN, "IT IS LESS CANDID ABOUT THE LACK OF THEATRICAL  
ENTERTAINMENTAND OTHER EVENING DIVERSIONS THAT TOURISTS  
TAKE FOR GRANTED BUTHAT ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY LACKING  
IN CHINA" (GLOBE FEB 2). KISSINGER

NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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